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# QUARTER BY QUARTER



## NAUGHTY CORNER (Inspired by Nick Kyrgios)

IT'S a pretty simple demand: You are placed in quarantine, you stay where you are.

But clearly that was too much for Wellington Phoenix and New Zealand All White defender Tim Payne, who issued a tearful apology this week for a joyriding incident during the team's A-League quarantine period at the Sydney Academy of Sport in Narrabeen.

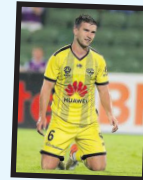
If it wasn't so serious, it would be funny.

Payne, pictured, and teammate Oliver Sail had been drinking with teammates within the compound during 14 days of isolation when they commandeered a golf buggy and drove it beyond the facility's boundary.

Fortunately no members of the public were involved and Payne and Oliver will cop their whack from the club and the Football Federation Australia. They are fortunate the police are not on that list.

"I just want to say that I'm incredibly sorry and incredibly embarrassed, what I've done," Payne said.

The competition has been now suspended because of the coronavirus.



Born to swim: Paralympic hopeful Tegan Reder and, inset, with her guide dog Loui. Pictures: Michael Wilson, St Norbert College



# TEGAN THRIVES IN DEEP END

CLOVERDALE teen Tegan Reder has found real power and genuine freedom in the swimming pool.

The St Norbert College student was born with leber congenital amaurosis, an eye disorder in which the retinas don't function, but the 16-year-old leaves her blindness poolside.

"In the pool I'm free to do what I want. I'm not Tegan the blind girl, I'm just Tegan, another swimmer," she said.

It's a modest assertion because Reder is anything but "another swimmer".

Reder has made such rapid progress in two-and-a-bit years of competition, she is considered not only a genuine

prospect for the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham and Paris 2024, she might even sneak into the squad for Tokyo, now that the Paralympics have been shifted to mid next year because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

A member of the Dolphin Para Development Swimming Squad, which trains Paralympic hopefuls, her S11 times are the fastest in the world this year for the 50m breaststroke and second-fastest for 100m breaststroke. She also holds an Australian open record for the 50m breaststroke and set five personal best times in six different races at the Australian Short Course Championships last October. Reder's base is

**“In the pool I'm free to do what I want. I'm not Tegan the blind girl, I'm just Tegan, another swimmer**

Aqualife in East Victoria Park, although pool closures means she has nowhere to train.

"With my pool closing I'm not sure what will happen, but I'm going to do everything I can to keep training and keep it as normal as possible," she said.

"I'm going to take it day by day and train as much as I can and as hard as I can. I want to get an AIS scholarship by the end of next year, move to Canberra and train over there.

"It would be nice to make the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham and from there go to the Paris 2024 Paralympics."

And Tokyo next year? "I'm going to try my hardest to get there. But I don't know if I will. I'm going to give it everything I have," she said.

Tegan settled on swimming after trying her hand at gymnastics, tee ball, horse riding, vaulting and dancing

and draws inspiration from Bronte Campbell, a gold medallist at the Rio Olympics as a member of the women's 4 x 100m freestyle relay team.

"She came from such a normal family and didn't even have a sporty background, but she achieved so much and has such determination. That's what I want to do," Reder said.

S11 category swimmers compete in blacked-out goggles and have 'tappers' to indicate they are at the end of the pool.

Reder wears her goggles upside down as a sporting superstition. "About a year ago, I realised my goggles were upside down and I thought 'Cool, whatever', so I put them on the right way for a race — a

100m breaststroke, my best event — and they fell off my face," she said.

"I thought, 'Oh that's bad'. Then I put them the right way up again for my next race and again they fell off, so I thought, 'Right, from now on I'm wearing them upside down.'"

She's a high achiever out of the pool too, as one of four finalists for this year's 7NEWS WA Young Achiever of the Year (Surge Fitness Sports Award) and at school, she's on the Year 11 ATAR Pathway.

She also has a new canine companion, Loui, who has been by her side for the past two-and-a-half months.

"It has given me so much more independence," she said.

## MOST READ ONLINE THIS WEEK

1 Dan Ricciardo makes the most of the shutdown.

2 Boxer Danny Green breaks down in tears over gym closure.

3 Former WCE star Ben Cousins' exclusive interview to air.

4 Game over! AFL to shut down due to coronavirus concerns.

5 New interstate travel ban to end AFL season.

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## STAT MAN'S 1294-GAME STREAK ENDS

STATISTICIANS and historians chronicle the lives of others with a primal passion. Just occasionally they find themselves the focus of their own obsession.

Such as Geelong Football Club and AFL historian Col Hutchinson, a great man with whom I crossed paths in the mid-1980s during a stint as footy writer for the *Geelong Advertiser*. Hutchinson, pictured, would hand out fact sheets on Geelong's upcoming game every Thursday night. The attention to detail was as stunning as the very feats on the pages.

So it was sad to hear of his unbroken attendance streak of Geelong games almost



reaching six decades coming to an end last weekend because of the coronavirus outbreak when he was unable to watch the Cats clash with GWS at Giants Stadium.

Hutchinson was 19 when he last missed attending a live Geelong game — round 10, 1963 — when the Cats lost to Fitzroy at the old Brunswick St Oval in Melbourne's north. He missed because of the mumps

and Geelong went on to defeat Hawthorn in that year's grand final. The streak since that game had reached 1294 games, including ten grand finals and four premierships, and he saw close up the genius of Graham "Polly" Farmer and the freakish talents of the Abletts.

Along the journey, there were a couple of close misses, such as when his flight to Perth was cancelled for a game against Fremantle in 2007 but he managed to secure the final seat with another airline. Or back in 1971 when he woke up with the flu but soldiered on to a game against St Kilda.

He told the *Geelong Advertiser* with tongue firmly in cheek in the lead-up to last

weekend's game he had asked for a quote to hire a cherry picker near Sydney.

"I was asked by one of my colleagues the other day when the last time was that I watched a telecast of a Geelong match," he said.

"I was thinking about it and way back in 1960 the television agreement with the league was only last quarters of matches could be shown direct, so I remember watching, ironically, a Geelong and Fitzroy match at the Brunswick St Oval."

But all is not lost. Hutchinson still has another streak to hang on to, which dates back to 1958 — 539 consecutive games at Kardinia Park.

## GAME, SET AND CASH

HE'S the greatest player to grace a tennis court and he's a pretty damn good human too.

Swiss Roger Federer and wife Mirka, pictured, this week pledged one million Swiss francs to the families in Switzerland rendered most vulnerable by the COVID-19 pandemic and urged others in a position to do so to follow their lead.

